

Community Living Program Grants

State Agency: Virginia Department for Aging

Project Title: Community Living Program: Choices for Independence

Project Period: September 30, 2009 to September 30, 2011

Contact:

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Project Abstract:

The Virginia Department for the Aging (VDA), in partnership with ten Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), proposes to significantly enhance the modernization of Virginia's system of long term care for seniors and veterans by expanding the Community Living Program (CLP) to over half of the Commonwealth.

The objectives of the project are to:

- 1) divert individuals at imminent risk of nursing home placement and spend-down to Medicaid by providing for consumer direction of a comprehensive and flexible array of community services to meet their individual needs; and
- 2) to firmly embed a sustainable CLP model of service delivery into Virginia's network of aging services by: building on the foundation established in Virginia's 2008 CLP initiative and significantly expanding the program in both the size and reach.

Outcomes to be achieved through this grant include: 100 eligible seniors diverted from nursing home placement and spend-down to Medicaid; 8 additional AAAs implementing CLP programs and offering consumer direction of services to both seniors and veterans; 65 Service Coordinators trained in all aspects of CLP; fiscal practices redesigned to allow flexible funding of an array of services from a choice of providers; demonstration of the efficacy of telemedicine to help rural seniors remain safely in their homes; improved speed and efficiency of client assessment and service initiation through Virtual Intake Centers; continued refinement and documentation of Virginia's CLP model; comprehensive client and service tracking through specialized software; and evaluation of the CLP to document success in delaying or avoiding nursing home placement, cost effectiveness of the program and client satisfaction.